

## Message Text

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ACTION DLOS-09

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-07

AGRE-00 AID-05 CEA-01 CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-08 EPA-01 ERDA-05

FMC-01 TRSE-00 H-01 INR-07 INT-05 IO-13 JUSE-00

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 NSF-01 OES-07 OMB-01 PA-01

PM-05 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /145 W

-----086081 300118Z /75

R 291212Z SEP 77

FM AMEMBASSY RABAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3254

INFO AMCONSUL CASABLANCA

AMEMBASSY MADRID

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY PARIS

DIA

CNO

CINCUSNAVEUR

CINCLANTFLT

COMSIXTHFLT

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E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PLOS, MO, EFIS

SUBJ: GOM PLEDGES EVENTUAL 200 MILE OFFSHORE LIMIT

1. MOROCCAN FISHING FEDERATION ANNOUNCED TO THE PRESS SEPT. 23 FOLLOWING A MEETING WITH MINISTER OF COMMERCE GHISSASSI THAT MOROCCO'S "FISHING ZONES" WOULD "SOON" BE EXTENDED FROM 70 TO 200 MILES.

2. MFA DIRECTOR FOR LEGAL AFFAIRS GHARBI TOLD EMBOFF SEPT. 27 THAT THERE WAS NO FIRM DATE SET TO EXTEND MOROCCO'S LIMITS, AND THAT IN ANY CASE IT WOULD NOT OCCUR BEFORE NEXT SPRING. HE SAID  
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THAT ONE REASON FOR THE TIMING OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS THE MEETING OF FISH INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES. THE INDUSTRY WAS UNHAPPY AT FOREIGN EXPLOITATION OF MOROCCO'S OFFSHORE WATERS. THE SUBJECT WOULD UNDOUBTEDLY BE RAISED ON THE FLOOR OF PARLIAMENT AFTER IT CONVENED FOR ITS FIRST SESSION IN OCTOBER. GHARBI REMARKED OBLIQUELY THAT MOROCCO'S DECISION COULD NOT IN ANY CASE BE A UNILATERAL ONE.

3. COMMENT: THE GOM'S LACK OF HASTE TO GO TO A 200 MILE LIMIT HAS BEEN CONDITIONED BY A NUMBER OF FACTORS. FIRST, IT DOES NOT YET HAVE THE PRACTICAL MEANS TO PATROL A TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT. IN ADDITION, GOM OFFICIALS HAD HOPED THAT THE MATTER COULD BE RESOLVED IN THE NOW-STALLED LOS TALKS. THIRDLY, THE QUESTION OF THE LIMIT IS CLOSELY INTERTWINED WITH UNFINISHED BILATERAL FISHING NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE SPANISH. A 200 MILE LIMIT WOULD GREATLY CONFUSE THE SITUATION BY ENCOMPASSING THE CARARIES, AND FOR THEIR PART THE SPANISH ARE SEEKING SPECIAL RIGHTS FOR CANARY ISLAND FISHERMEN IN THEIR TRADITIONAL FISHING GROUND OFF SAHARAN WATERS.

4. WE ALSO STRONGLY SUSPECT THAT THE TIMING OF THE ANNOUNCEMENT WAS NO COINCIDENCE, COMING AT THE TIME OF THE SPANISH CORTES DEBATE ON THE SAHARA.  
ANDERSON

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** TWO HUNDRED MILE LIMIT  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1977RABAT05381  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D770356-0082  
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**Litigation History:**  
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**Message ID:** ce090e49-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION DLOS  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
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**Review Media Identifier:**  
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**Review Release Event:** n/a  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** GOM PLEDGES EVENTUAL 200 MILE OFFSHORE LIMIT  
**TAGS:** PLOS, EFIS, MO  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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